

IN THE CLAIMS

Please cancel Claims 4-7, 9, 10, 12 and 13, without prejudice or disclaimer of subject matter.

Please amend Claims 1-3, 8 and 11, to read as follows.

1. (Currently Amended) An information processing apparatus comprising:
a reader, arranged to read ~~[[a]] document image~~ images from a document having plural pages;

a recognition section, arranged to recognize character strings of ~~the read~~ each document image read by said reader;

~~[[a]] an~~ an extractor, arranged to extract ~~[[a]] information, which includes first~~ character strings indicating contents of [[a]] respective pages of the document and second character strings indicating page numbers of respective pages of the document, from the recognized character strings; and

a synthesizer, arranged to synthesize and output speech ~~based on the chosen~~ to indicate a relation between the first and second character string strings.

2. (Currently Amended) The apparatus according to claim 1, wherein ~~said extractor extracts the character string indicating the contents of the document on the basis of the recognized character string;~~ the information further includes information indicating a location of [[the]] each first character string on the in the respective document images, a character size and color, and vertical or horizontal a direction of writing, and said extractor stores the extracted information.

3. (Currently Amended) The apparatus according to claim 1, wherein ~~said~~
~~extractor extracts a~~ the first character strings correspond to titles of each page of the
document, respectively.

4-7. (Canceled)

8. (Currently Amended) An information processing method comprising
steps of:
reading ~~[[a]] document image~~ images from a document having plural pages;
recognizing character strings of ~~the read~~ each document image read in the
reading step;

extracting ~~[[a]]~~ information, which includes first character strings indicating
contents of ~~[[a]]~~ respective pages of the document and second character strings indicating
page numbers of respective pages of the document, from the recognized character strings;
and

synthesizing and outputting speech ~~based on the chosen~~ to indicate a
relation between the first and second character ~~string~~ strings.

9. (Canceled)

10. (Canceled)

11. (Currently Amended) A computer-executable program product storing stored in a computer-readable medium comprising a computer program code, for causing a computer to perform an information processing method, the method comprising steps of:

reading ~~[[a]] document image~~ images from a document having plural pages;

recognizing character strings of ~~the read~~ each document image read in the reading step;

extracting ~~[[a]] information, which includes first~~ character strings indicating contents of ~~[[a]] respective pages of the document and second character strings indicating page numbers of respective pages of the document,~~ from the recognized character strings; and

synthesizing and outputting speech ~~based on the chosen~~ to indicate a relation between the first and second character string strings.

12. (Canceled)

13. (Canceled)